

JOHN S. CORZINE Governor HEALTH / AGRICULTURE BUILDING
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CHARLES M. KUPERUS Secretary of Agriculture

August 17, 2006

To: New Jersey Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Education Teachers

From: Nancy J. Trivette, State Program Leader, Agricultural Education

Re: Fall Agricultural Education Professional Development Conference

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Office of Agricultural Education (NJDE registered provider #847) will conduct the fall professional development conference for agriculture teachers on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at the New Jersey EcoComplex, Columbus, NJ. The conference, worth 6 "professional development hours," is designed to provide the latest information to help you meet New Jersey's vision and goals for agricultural education.

Topics include: Using the E-Library (Ag Ed textbook) subscription in your programs; Cook College update by Dean Goodman; Career and Technical Education and NJDE Update; Creating a stronger academic focus for your program; Custom Student Assessment Tracker v.2.0 update; Rev It Up Recruitment and Retention packet; Preparing a Program of Activities using the latest software and Regional teacher meetings. In addition to the topics discussed above, every teacher will go home with: 1 Rev It Up Kit (including recruitment and retention materials, new SAE handbook software, Career Exploration CDs for students and teachers, PALS CD and Volunteer Guide); 1 Program of Activities Tool CD, 1 subscription for Ag Ed E-Library and more.

We will be granting a 'Computer on Wheels' (COW) starter 'kit' to four schools. The kits include one locking notebook computer storage cart for up to 30 laptops and two Dell Latitude wireless laptops. This set up will allow you to build upon the system and begin to use the E-Library, CSAT web based assessment tool and many other computer programs in your classroom. It is recommended that if you have not already used CSAT web based assessment tool, you do so before this conference.

If you have any questions, please call me at 1.877.Ag Ed FFA. Please note that the conference ends at 3:30 pm. Professional development certificates will be presented at the end of the conference. Please plan your schedule accordingly. Directions - <a href="http://ecocomplex.rutgers.edu/about\_us\_directions.php">http://ecocomplex.rutgers.edu/about\_us\_directions.php</a>
Use the attached Excel form to register and email to: ag.ed.registration@ag.state.nj.us

Registration Deadline:September 22, 2006Conference Date:September 29, 2006Registration/Continental Breakfast:8:30 am - 9:00 amConference Schedule:8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Location: EcoComplex, 1200 Florence Columbus Rd., Columbus, NJ

Fee: \$35.00 (covers lunch)